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EXAMINER

JAMI, HARES

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2162

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PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

## Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/658,584

**Applicant(s)**

BERINGER ET AL.

**Examiner**

Hares Jami

**Art Unit**

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 August 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 and 25-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 and 25-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>08/01/2007</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

***DETAILED ACTION***

This is in response to the amendment filed on August 15, 2007.

Claims 1-20 and 25-36 are pending in this Action.

Claims 20-24 had been already withdrawn.

***Response to Amendment***

Claims 1-8, 11-12, 16-20, and 25-36 are currently amended, claims 20-24 had been withdrawn, and no new claim has been added.

The amendments regarding specification and claim objections have been accepted. Therefore, prior objections have been withdrawn.

The amendments regarding 35 USC 101 rejections have been accepted. Therefore, prior 35 USC 101 rejections have been withdrawn.

The amendments regarding 35 USC 112, second paragraph rejections have been accepted. Therefore, prior 35 USC 112, second paragraph rejections have been withdrawn.

Applicants' arguments filed on August 15, 2007 regarding newly amended claims 1-20 and 25-36 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

***Specification Objection***

The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required:

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Claim 1-2 and 25 contain a newly amended subject matter of "first attributes" and "second attributes" which are not mentioned and explained in the specification.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-2 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph for being indefinite because it is not clear what type of attributes constitutes "first attributes" and "second attributes", and what attributes the Applicants consider as "first attributes" and "second attributes".

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.

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3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claims 1-5, 7-13, 19-20, 25-31, and 33-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C.

103(a) as being unpatentable over Siefert, US Patent 5,721,906 (patent date:

Feb. 24, 1998) in view of Singh et al. ('Singh', hereafter), US Publication US

2003/0130994 A1 (filed on Sep. 26, 2002).

Regarding claim 1,

Siefert discloses a method comprising:

- Receiving, through a user interface, first attributes of a resource desired by a user (Note that the Applicants on page 7, paragraph 32, of the instant application describe a document as a type of resources and its title, author, publication date, and topic as attributes. Siefert discloses a user interface receiving search words such as "Title" of documents, book, or movies, as a first attributes of a desired resource, see Fig. 9 and col. 10, lines 44-46, Siefert);
- searching a data source of resource profiles associated with a plurality of resources, the resources being of a resource type, for profiles having one or more of the first attributes (Siefert discloses that the profiles of resources are searched to locate the resource of interest such as books, movies, and documents, which has the first attributes, such as "Title", see Col. 4, lines 31-33 and col. 4, line 65 through col. 5, line 26, Siefert);

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- providing a hit-list of resources having the one or more first attributes (Siefert discloses a hit-list of resources [a list of documents] that has the first attribute of "Title", which here is "Unix", see Fig. 10-11, Siefert);

Siefert discloses the above limitations of claim 1. Siefert discloses receiving the first attributes (i.e. "Titles" of documents or books) and providing a search list based on that said first attributes (see above). However, Siefert is silent with respect to receiving second attributes of the resource through a refinement user interface, searching the hit-list for resources having the second attributes; and providing a narrowed hit-list of resources having the first and second attributes. On the other hand, Singh discloses a method, system and software for retrieving information bases on front and back matter data, which is form the same field of endeavor of retrieving information ([0006], Singh). Singh discloses "authors" and publishers as second attributes ([0118]-0132], Singh). Singh further teaches the technique of further narrowing the result pages [which contains the hit list from the first attributes] by providing the user with specific search criteria and instructing to narrow the search parameters, such as narrowing down by "authors" which reads on the second attributes ([0079], [0163], [0204], lines 5-8, Singh), the new narrowed search results contains both the first and second attributes (i.e., both "title" and "authors" attributes). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made having the teachings of Siefert and Singh before him/her to modify the method of searching resource profiles of Siefert with Singh

system. A skilled artisan would have been motivated to incorporate the technique of narrowing down the result pages of Singh and using the "authors" as second attributes with the method of searching resource profiles of Siefert in order to receive second attributes of the resource through a refinement user interface, search the hit-list for resources having the second attributes; and provide a narrowed hit-list of resources having the first and second attributes. A good motivation for doing so would have been reducing the number of selected non-relevant resources with increasing the chance of selected relevant resources.

Regarding claim 2,

the combination of Siefert in view of Singh teaches creating segments the hit-list by grouping the resources by one of the attribute dimensions (Siefert teaches grouping the resources according to fixed categories, [see col. 12, lines 25-29 and Fig. 19, Siefert]; moreover, Singh discloses that the search results screen display a summary segmenting the results by groups of titles, authors, and publishers and showing the statistics of each group which corresponds to attribute dimension limitation, see [0155]-[0158], Singh), and displaying statistics associated with the segment (Singh discloses displaying the statistics associated with segments on the hit-list; Singh gives examples such as number of authors, number of tiles, and number of publications which are statistics with each segment of authors or publishers, see [0156]-[0160] and [0287], Singh);  
Receiving a selection of one or more segments through a user interface; and  
Providing a narrowed hit-list by selecting one or more resources from the selected segments (the combination of Siefert in view of Singh teaches the

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limitation of receiving the selections of segments of resources [categories of resources] that user can select [see Fig. 19, Siefert], and narrowing the hit-list by selecting a range of a group [see [0163], Singh], which corresponds to providing a narrowed hit-list by selecting one or more resources from the selected segments).

Regarding claim 3,

the combination of Siefert in view of Singh further teaches displaying, in response to a user query, resources of the hit-list for user inspection (Siefert discloses displaying a hit-list of resources [a list of documents] that has the first attribute of "Title", which here is "Unix", for the user inspection, see Fig. 10-11, Siefert); maintaining a list of resources displayed for inspection by the user (Singh discloses retaining [i.e., maintaining] some of retrieved information based on an indication by the user which is inspected by the user [see [0019], Singh] ); Displaying a search history of search queries previously entered by a user, including a list of resources previously displayed (Singh discloses that Search History selection is provided [i.e., displayed] on the screen of Search Selection, see [102], lines 1-2, Singh) ; allowing a user to back navigating to a search within the search history by displaying the corresponding hit-list; and displaying the list of inspected resources as the hit-list, (Singh further discloses a Search History saves [i.e., maintaining] a list of search criteria associated with a hit as cookies on the computer that has been done by the user ; the step of accessing the last 20 searches conducted by the user corresponds to the claimed limitation of,



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allowing the user to navigate back through the previous searches [see [0102] and [0276], Singh]).

Regarding claim 4,

the combination of Siefert in view of Singh further discloses storing the hit-list as a collection of resources that can be used for further actions or stored as a persistent collection, (Siefert discloses that the user is provided with a retrieved collections of hit-list which can be used for further action of retrieving implying that the hit-list of resources are stored before the retrieving, see Fig. 11-13, and Col. 11, lines 10-15, Siefert).

Regarding claim 5,

the combination of Siefert in view of Singh further discloses defining resource profiles by facets, attributes, and description of the sources of the attributes (Siefert discloses that a profile contains descriptive information describing the sources of the attributes [i.e., attributes] characterizing resources, like title, product ID, cost, price, and resource description [see col. 4, lines 29-30 and Fig. 48], which corresponds to definition of facet by the Applicant describing facets as set of attributes[see [0020], lines 67, instant application]).

Regarding claim 7,

the combination of Siefert in view of Singh further discloses storing the narrowed hit-list as a collection of resources, for using for further actions or storing as a persistent collection (this limitation is equivalently taught when Singh discloses retaining some of retrieved information across query session [i.e., a hit-list of resources] on an indication by the user, [see [0019], Singh], and Siefert

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discloses that the user is provided with a retrieved collections of hit-list which can be used for further action of retrieving implying that the hit-list of resources are stored before the retrieving, [see Fig. 11-13, and Col. 11, lines 10-15, Siefert], which reads on the limitation of storing the narrowed hit-list as a collection of resources, for using for further actions or storing as a persistent collection).

Regarding claim 8,

the combination of Siefert in view of Singh further discloses storing the collection of resources dynamically or statically, (Singh equivalently discloses the limitation of storing dynamically of resources by teaching that the search criteria [i.e., query] is saved as a cookie [see [0276], Singh], which correspond to the Applicant's description of storing dynamically as storing the query [see [0010], lines 4-5, instant application]; Singh further teaches the limitations of storing statically of resources by teaching that the retrieved information is retained [i.e., saved] by the user indication [see [0019], Singh], which correspond to the Applicant's description of storing statically as storing the hit-list [see [0010], lines 4-5, instant application]).

Regarding claims 9-10,

the combination of Siefert in view of Singh further discloses aggregating the narrowed hit-list with an existing collection of resources and the existing collection of resources comprises an historical listing of aggregated narrowed hit-lists (Singh equivalently teaches the limitation of aggregating the narrowed hit list to the collection of historical aggregated narrowed hit-lists when he discloses that search results page contains the option of "saving in user file/profile" [see [0287]

and [0295], Singh], which saves the results [i.e., selected resources] in a file which can contain other saved results forming an aggregated collection of results. Singh further discloses merging found materials or retrieved information with material selected during earlier searches, see [0509], lines 5-10, Singh).

Regarding claim 11,

the combination of Siefert in view of Singh further discloses creating segments of the narrowed hit-list by discrete values of an attribute dimension, (Siefert teaches grouping [i.e., segmenting] the resources according to fixed categories [see col. 12, lines 25-29 and Fig. 19, Siefert]; moreover, Singh discloses that the search results screen display a summary segmenting the results by groups of titles, authors, and publishers and showing the statistics of each group which corresponds to attribute dimension limitation, see [0155]-[0158], Singh).

Regarding claim 12,

the combination of Siefert in view of Singh further discloses comprising providing one or more descriptive statistics associated with the segments, (Singh discloses providing statistical data for the groups of results such as number of titles, or number of authors meet the criteria which forms a group, see [0155]-[0160] and [0287]; Singh);

Regarding claim 13,

the combination of Siefert in view of Singh further discloses the hit-list is refined to resources associated with a particular descriptive statistic, (Singh discloses refining the search results by selecting the range of authors or specific

authors, see [0163], which the statistics data already about authors already provided on the results page, see [0155]-[0157], Singh).

Regarding claim 19,

the combination of Siefert in view of Singh further discloses using the hit-list to create a community, (Singh discloses that retrieved information or found materials [i.e., hit-list] can be merged with materials that found earlier, and user can share their resources with other users through collaborative tools, which forms a community, see [0509], Singh).

Regarding claim 20,

the combination of Siefert in view of Singh further discloses providing contact information in response to a user query to enable communication with resources in the community, (Singh discloses collaborative tools that enable the communication of resources in the community, in which the contact information is provided for collaborative tools in order to communicate the resources, see [0509], lines 10-14, Singh).

Regarding claims 25-31, and 33-36,

the scope of claims 25-31, and 33-36 are substantially the same as claims 1-4, 10, 5, 12, 6-7, and 9-11, respectively. Therefore, claims 25-31, and 33-36 are rejected on the same basis as set forth for the rejections of claims 1-4, 10, 5, 12, 6-7, and 9-11, respectively.

Claims 14-16, 18, 6, and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Siefert, US Patent 5,721,906 (patent date: Feb. 24, 1998) in

view of Singh et al., US Publication US 2003/0130994 A1 (filed on Sep. 26, 2002), and further in view of Coiera et al. ('Coiera', hereafter), US Publication 2005/0086204 A1 (PCT filed on Nov. 20, 2002).

Regarding claim 14,

the combination of Siefert in view of Singh discloses all the limitations of claim 1. However, it is silent with respect to receiving a search template by the user. On the other hand, Coiera discloses a system and method for searching data sources, which is from the same field of endeavor of searching data (see Abstract and [004], Coiera). Coiera teaches the technique of selecting a search template according to search parameters by the user (see [0004], lines 5-11, Coiera). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made having the teachings of the combination of Siefert in view of Singh to further modify the combination of Siefert in view of Singh system with Coiera teaching. A skilled artisan would have been motivated to incorporate the technique of selecting a search template according to search parameters by the user as taught by Coiera (see [0004], lines 5-11, Coiera) with the method of searching profiles of resources of the combination of Siefert in view of Singh in order to receive a search template from the user. As Coiera teaches a motivation for doing so would have been to reduce time, effort and skill for novice user to search data sources in most effective way (see [0006], Coiera).

Regarding claim 15,

the combination of Siefert in view of Singh and further in view of Coiera teaches the search template is defined by the user, (Coiera discloses that the

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user can create [i.e., define] his search template by saving his Advance Search, see [0061] and [0008], Coiera).

Regarding claim 16,

the combination of Siefert in view of Singh and further in view of Coiera teaches the search template comprises a multi-resource query that returns resources of more than one resource type, (Coiera discloses that query using for the template searching more than one resource type, see Table 1 in [00090], queries are included different type of data sources).

Regarding claim 18,

the combination of Siefert in view of Singh and further in view of Coiera teaches saving and re-using the search template can be saved and reused, (Coiera discloses storing the template on the user's system and using them by the creator [see [0085], lines 7-9, Coiera], and Siefert discloses that the user is provided with a retrieved collections of hit-list which can be used for further action of retrieving implying that the hit-list of resources are stored before the retrieving, [see Fig. 11-13, and Col. 11, lines 10-15, Siefert], which reads on the limitation of saving and re-using the search template can be saved and reused).

Regarding claim 6,

the combination of Siefert in view of Singh and further in view of Coiera teaches generating a pattern-based user interface of a search tool from the resource profile, (Coiera equivalently teaches this limitation by disclosing that a the Advanced Searched can be saved as a search template based on the search criteria and search keywords [see [0061], Coiera], as it is well known in the art a

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search template is a pattern-based user interface which is generated based on the desired keywords of the user to search for data source which can be a resource profile).

Regarding claim 32,

the scope of claim 32 is substantially the same as claim 6. Therefore, claim 32 is rejected on the same basis as set forth for the rejection of claim 6.

Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Siefert, US Patent 5,721,906 (patent date: Feb. 24, 1998) in view of Singh et al., US Publication US 2003/0130994 A1 (filed on Sep. 26, 2002), and further in view of Coiera et al., US Publication 2005/0086204 A1 (PCT filed on Nov. 20, 2002), and further in view of Nardozzi et al. ('Nardozzi', hereafter), US Patent 6,636,837 B1 (patent date: Oct. 21, 2003 filed on Jan. 27, 2000).

Regarding claim 17,

the combination of Siefert in view of Singh and further in view of Coiera teaches all the limitation of claim 14. However, it is silent with respect the search template is auto-configured based on the resource type, attributes or facets. On the other hand, Nardozzi teaches the technique of allowing the automatic customizing of the screen for the user based on the past history or personal information of the user (see col. 7, lines 8-15, Nardozzi). Nardozzi and the combination of Siefert in view of Singh and further in view of Coiera are from the same field of endeavor of displaying information. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made having

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the teachings of Nardoizzi to modify the combination of Siefert in view of Singh and further in view of Coiera with Nardoizzi system. A skilled artisan would have been motivated to incorporate the technique of allowing the automatic customizing of the screen for the user based on the past history or personal information of the user (see col. 7, lines 8-15, Nardoizzi) with search template of the combination of Siefert in view of Singh and further in view of Coiera in order to auto-customized (i.e., auto-configured) the search template based on the resource type because it facilitates the searching based on the user preferences resulting in saving time for the user.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicants' arguments filed on August 15, 2007 regarding newly amended claims 1-20 and 25-36 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to Applicants' arguments against the references individually, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

With respect to the Applicants' argument on page 15 of the REMARKS that Singh does not teach "providing a hit list of resources having the one or more first attributes" and "searching the hit-list for resources having the second attributes", as claimed in claim 1 and 25,

the examiner respectfully disagrees.



Note that the Applicants on page 7, paragraph 32 of the instant application describe a document as a type of resources and its title, author, publication date, and topic as attributes. Since the Applicants does not explain the limitation of “first attribute” and “second attribute”. The Examiner interpreted “titles” of documents or books as a “first attributes” and “authors” as a “second attributes”.

The combination of Siefert in view of Singh teaches the limitation of “providing a hit list of resources having the one or more first attributes” (Siefert discloses a hit-list of resources [a list of documents] that has the first attribute of “Title”, which here is “Unix”, see Fig. 10-11, Siefert). Said limitation is disclosed by Siefert, not by Singh as stated by the Applicants on page 15, lines 12-18 of the REMARKS.

Moreover, the combination of Siefert in view of Singh indeed teaches the limitation of “searching the hit-list for resources having the second attributes” (Singh discloses “authors” and publishers as second attributes ([0118]-0132], Singh). Singh further teaches the technique of further narrowing the result pages (which contains the hit list from the first attributes) by providing the user with specific search criteria and instructing to narrow the search parameters, such as narrowing down by “authors” which reads on the second attributes ([0079], [0163], [0204], lines 5-8, Singh). Singh clearly discloses on [0163] and [0204] that a search result page, which contains the hit list from the first attributes, is narrowed down by searching the results with specific “authors”, which is “second attributes”; Therefore, the narrowed result search contains hit lists having both the first attributes and second attributes).

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With respect to the Applicants' argument, on page 16, lines 7 et seq. of the REMARKS that the prima facie of obviousness because Coiera fails to teach or suggest "providing a hit list of resources having the one or more first attributes" and "searching the hit-lit for resources having the second attributes", as claimed in claim 1 and 25,

the examiner respectfully disagrees.

Here, it is the combination of the combination of Siefert in view of Singh that discloses said limitations, not Coiera (See the rejection of claim 1 and 25, above). Therefore, prima facie for the combination of Siefert in view of Singh and further in view of Coiera is established.

With respect to the Applicants' argument, on page 17, lines 7 et seq. of the REMARKS that the prima facie of obviousness because Nardoizzi fails to teach or suggest "providing a hit list of resources having the one or more first attributes" and "searching the hit-lit for resources having the second attributes", as claimed in claim 1 and 25,

the examiner respectfully disagrees.

Here, it is the combination of the combination of Siefert in view of Singh that discloses said limitations, not Nardoizzi (See the rejection of claim 1 and 25, above). Therefore, prima facie for the combination of Siefert in view of Singh and further in view of Nardoizzi is established.

In conclusion, the combination of Siefert in view of Singh, the combination of Siefert in view of Singh and further in view of Coiera, and the combination of Siefert in view of Singh and further in view of Nardoizzi teach all the limitations

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disclosed in the claims 1-20 and 25-36 of the instant application. Therefore, the limitations of claims 1-20 and 25-36 of the instant application have been met with respect to said combinations.

#### **Conclusion**

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

#### **Point of Contact**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hares Jami whose telephone number is 571-270-1291. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon to Fri 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E. Breene can be reached on 571-272-4107. The

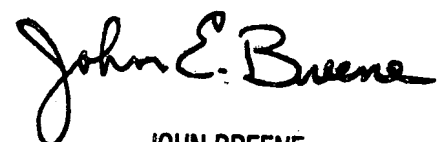
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fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Hares Jami  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2162

HJ  
10/19/2007



JOHN BREENE  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100